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PHILLY
Nov. 30-Dec. 2, 2018
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CHRISTMAS VILLAGE PULLOUT INSIDE

THE *Spotlight* IS ON

The Met Philadelphia's grand opening has arrived. 6

THE MET PHILADELPHIA

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WELCOME TO WKND

MOLLY GIVEN, PHILADELPHIA FEATURES EDITOR

The Met Philadelphia, formerly known as the Philadelphia Metropolitan Opera House, recently underwent a $56 million restoration. The new and improved music and event venue's grand opening will feature a performance from music legend Bob Dylan and His Band, which also will mark Dylan's 50th performance in the City of Brotherly Love. As an avid concertgoer, I am ecstatic to experience the newly revamped venue and check out all of the talented and exciting performances coming to The Met in the future. Read on to find out all the exciting details on The Met Philadelphia's grand opening.

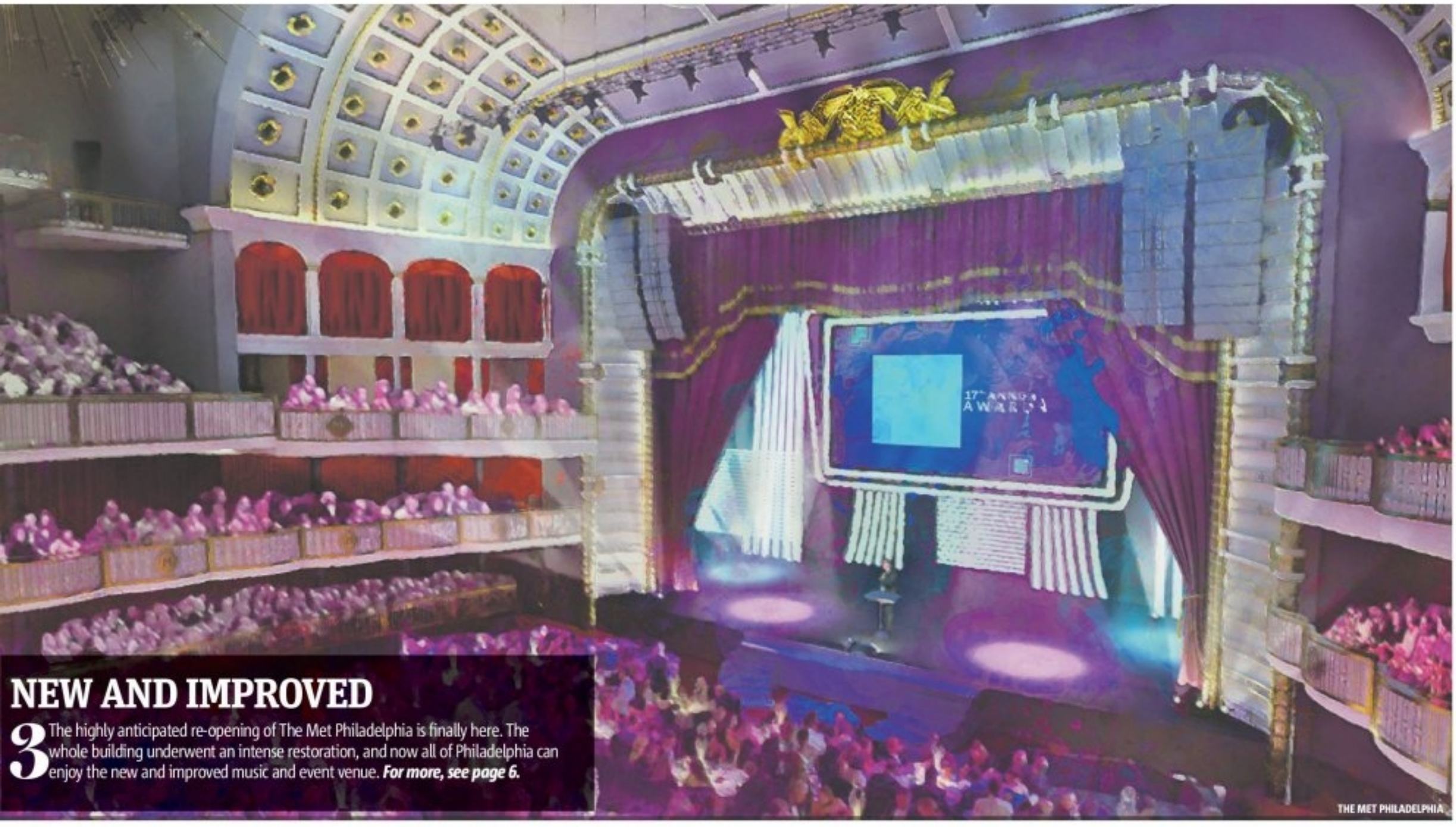
PHILLY FOODIES UNITE

THE TASTING COLLECTIVE

1 The Tasting Collective is the ultimate Philly foodie group. Diners will receive a VIP experience from some of the city's top chefs and restaurants, and even get to converse with other Philadelphians in an intimate atmosphere. ***For more, see page 4.***

'FAMILY' GUY

2 Bill Burr's hit animated comedy series "F Is for Family" returns for season 3 on Netflix this weekend. We chatted with the fan-favorite comic about the show and why he likes to keep things real. ***For more, see pages 8-9.***



THE MET PHILADELPHIA

NEW AND IMPROVED

3 The highly anticipated re-opening of The Met Philadelphia is finally here. The whole building underwent an intense restoration, and now all of Philadelphia can enjoy the new and improved music and event venue. ***For more, see page 6.***

BEST OF THE WKND

GETTY IMAGES

4 The newly opened Cherry Street Pier is hosting a Book & Author Fest to showcase some of the top indie authors in the Philadelphia area. Guests are in for a few surprises with book signings, meet-and-greets and more. ***For more, see page 12.***

TONY'S METRO MAGIC 2018

Tony's METRO MAGIC

As we enter the season of giving, Metro asks that you donate to Tony's Metro Magic annual holiday toy drive to help underprivileged children in your community. You can donate by visiting metro.us/magic, clicking on the toy wish list link of your choice, and ordering via a secure payment system. Toys will then be distributed to local children in need.

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Guests get to converse with chefs throughout the meal. GETTY IMAGES

Dine like a VIP

The Tasting Collective is the ultimate Philly foodie group

MOLLY GIVEN

All foodies and edible lovers unite. The Tasting Collective is the ultimate eating experience. The food-fueled group is based around the country and recently laid claim in the City of Brotherly Love. Members of the Tasting Collective have access to private chef-led dining events at top restaurants as well as exclusive perks to the best food-related brands.

The members-only group creates an open dialogue between top chefs in the city and food-loving patrons. Participants are able to give critique, comments and praise to all cooking extraordinaires without hesitance, while the chefs get to put on an intimate show for the community. Every meeting is held at a different hotspot and the venue is turned into a stage for the chef to perform on. Multiple dishes are sent out throughout the event, each one carefully constructed and uniquely delicious. While the food is being eaten the professionals who constructed them are there to answer questions, tell stories and hear what the members have to say.

The Tasting Collective was originally started by Nat Gelb in New York City; soon after the group was conceived it spread like wildfire throughout the US. "I didn't have a connection to Philadelphia before I started prepping for our expansion there, but I totally fell in love with it," Gelb told Eater Philadelphia. "I live in Brooklyn, and Philly has a similar vibe — there's a palpable energy, with this very vibrant, bustling food scene with innovative, small, independent, chef-owned restaurants."

The selected restaurants in Philly are typically privately owned and are notified about the event in advance so they can plan to accommodate all the members that will attend. Sometimes there are even two seatings in a night. Members pay $50 a head, not including tax and tip. The location of the events that occur every other week are constantly changing, but Gelb assures Philadelphians they will have enough time to prepare and plan to attend. Non-members are allowed to attend if they are accompanied by a member, the guest fee is $25 per person.

Each meal is around eight courses and promises that no foodie will leave hungry. Every member has a scorecard where they can rate each dish and give feedback. Other cities involved with this delicious movement include New York City, San Fransisco, Austin and Chicago. Tasting Collective has a $165 annual membership, and all non-members can apply for a membership online now at *tastingcollective.com*.

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Saturday, December 8 • 8pm
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Saturday, January 5 • 8pm
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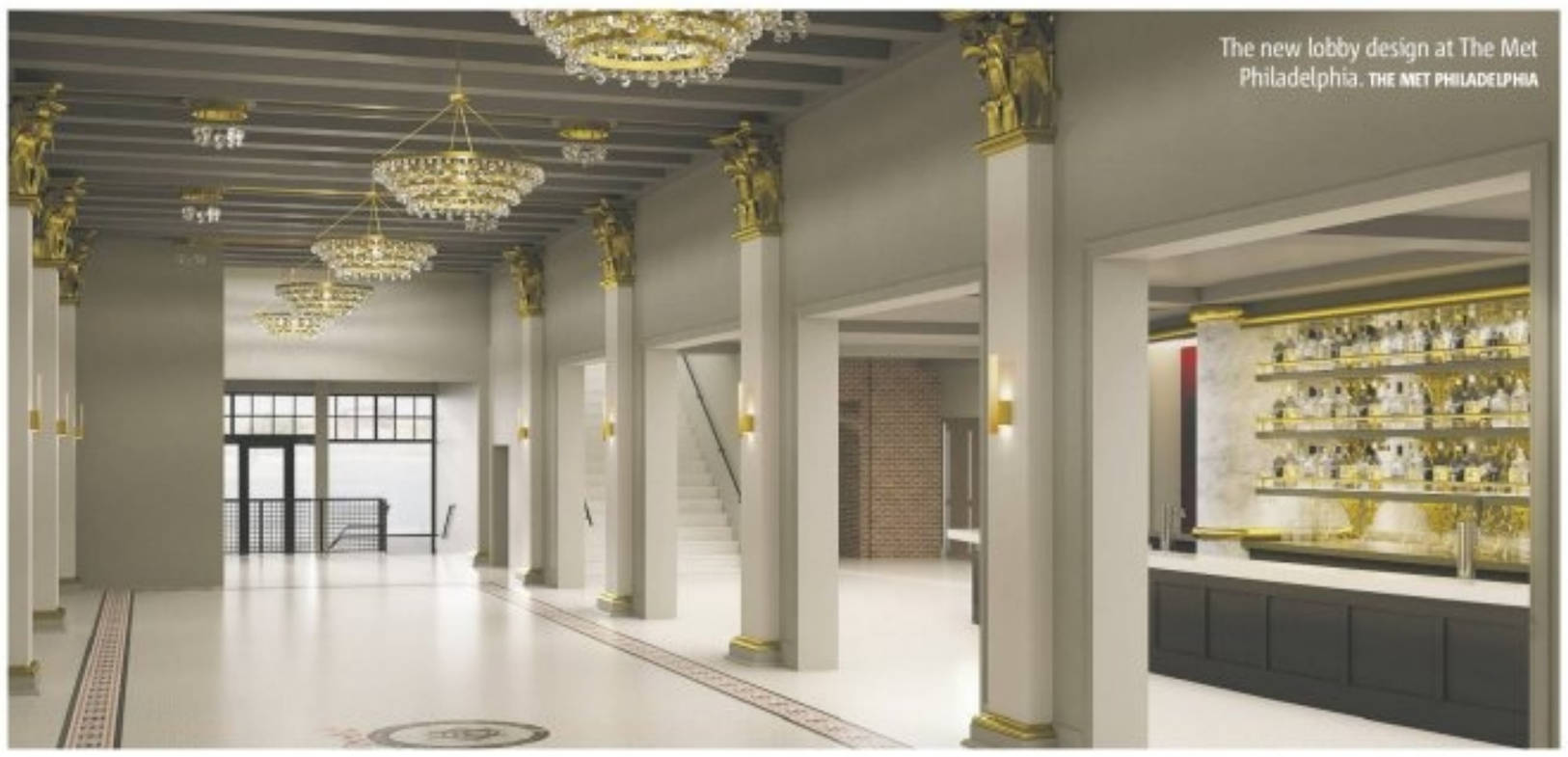
The main event

The Met is set to open on Dec. 3. MOLLY GIVEN


The new lobby design at The Met Philadelphia. THE MET PHILADELPHIA

The Met Philadelphia, formerly known as the Philadelphia Metropolitan Opera House, is almost open after undergoing a $56 million restoration.

The Met partnered with Live Nation, Eric Blumenfeld and Holy Ghost Headquarters to transform the remarkable theater into an immense contemporary music and event venue that still encompasses a historic and refined allure. After much anticipation, Philadelphians are now invited to be a part of the action.

The long-awaited launch of the revamped event venue will house a gorgeous and grand main room that boasts 3,400 seats, romantic and sleek designs, 25 bars throughout the building, two-level balconies and a magnificent stage that will hopefully house at least 125 shows a year. The new and improved Met Philadelphia building is ready to make its mark on the City of Brotherly Love.

The revamped venue now has the possibility to house much more than ever before. The once-slanted floor in the main room has since been flattened opening up the door to house other colorful events such as award shows and dance competitions. The possibilities for this grand building are endless.

On Dec. 3 music legend Bob Dylan & His Band will be the first to perform and open The Met Philadelphia at 8 p.m., the show will mark his 50th performance in Philly. Dylan is just one of several major acts already booked at the venue, other major entertainers include John Legend (Dec. 4), Weezer (Dec. 12), Lindsey Sterling (Dec. 18), PnB Rock (Dec. 28), Kurt Vile & the Violators (Dec. 29), John Oliver (Dec. 30-31), Greensky Bluegrass (Jan. 11), Jim Gaffigan (Feb.9), Meek Mill (Mar. 15-16) , Amos Lee (Apr. 9), and many more.

"We are thrilled to offer an eclectic series of opening shows that will truly offer something for everyone at the Met," said Geoffrey Gordon, Regional President of Live Nation Philadelphia in a release. "We are grateful to the many artists who are just as excited as we are for the Met and want to be a part of our inaugural season. We would also like to thank our many great partners who helped make the Met's restoration possible."

Philadelphians who are interested in attending concerts can purchase tickets at themetphilly.com. Certain shows including the opening night extravaganza with Bob Dylan & His Band, the Dec. 15 performance from Pentatonix, the Dec. 30 performance by John Oliver and the live podcast of My Favorite Murder have already sold out. It's recommended to get tickets for any shows you may be interested in as soon as they go on sale. As a bonus, Live Nation wants to give back to the community and will donate 25 cents of every ticket sold to a show at the Met Philadelphia to Philadelphia Public Schools.

The Met Philadelphia is located at 858 N. Broad St.

READY YOUR RAKES. RECYCLE YOUR LEAVES.

There will be 23 collection areas throughout the City for weekly leaf drop-off on Saturdays starting November 5th (except November 24th, the Saturday following Thanksgiving) from 9am to 3pm at the locations listed. Mechanical leaf collection will be offered in areas with a heavy concentration of leaves.

Bagged leaf drop-off collection tips:

- Leaves must be placed in large brown biodegradable paper bags.
- Never mix trash or other recyclables with bagged leaves.

Mechanical collection area tips:

- Have leaves ready for collection by 7am Monday for each week of mechanical collection.
- If possible, move your vehicle to an off-street location on your scheduled collection day.

For drop-off details and collection schedules, call 311 or visit

PHILADELPHIASTREETS.COM/LEAVES

Collection Locations:

- 66th St. & Haverford Ave.
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- Broad St. & Christian St.
- 20th St. & Hartranft St.
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- Corinthian Ave. & Poplar St.
- American St. & Thompson St.
- Graver Ln. & Seminole St.
- Cathedral Rd. & Ridge Ave.
- Washington Ln. & Ardleigh St.
- Upsal St. & Lowber Ave.
- Fisher Ave. & Ogontz Ave.
- Wayne Ave. & Logan St.
- 5th St. & Chelten Ave. (reservoir)
- Castor Ave. & Foulkrod St.
- 1400 Cottman Ave. (Jardel Rec.)
- 2901 Princeton Ave. (Mayfair Rec.)
- 7901 Ridgeway St. (Fox Chase Rec.)
- 8101 Bustleton Ave. (Pelbano Rec.)
- 2900 Comly Rd. (Palmer Playground)
- 7231 Torresdale Ave. (Russo Park)

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How Bill Burr keeps 'F Is for Family' real

The creators of Netflix's popular animated comedy talk season 3. ANDREW HUSBAND

"F Is for Family" season three is now on Netflix. NETFLIX

Early on in "F Is for Family" season three, Frank Murphy (Bill Burr) takes his wife and kids to a drive-in theater with new neighbor Chet Stevenson (Vince Vaughn) and his spouse. The scene is an important one for the new neighbors' budding friendship, but it's also rife with much of the crude, biting humor that Burr's Netflix series is known for. Frank is constantly yelling at his kids, a creepy resident is spying on other people's cars in the background, and at any moment, it feels like everything could just go completely off the rails.

Except it won't, because unlike other adult-oriented animated series, "F Is for Family" goes out of its way to stay as real as possible – despite the fact that it's a cartoon. According to executive producers Michael Price and Peter Billingsly, Burr is the man responsible for this.

"Bill is a huge part of that," says Price. "I worked on 'The Simpsons' for many years. The staff there was really funny, so the first instinct was often to try and think of the funniest things to say or do. Sometimes we'd go a little crazy with it, but not with 'F Is for Family.' In the writer's room, Bill always acknowledges that something is really funny if it is, but he always wants to make sure it's real. He wants to make sure we stay grounded with who the characters are."

"I'm the guy that tries to keep it tethered to reality, basically," says Burr. "I do this, I would say, because so that it doesn't get too absurd."

Of course, there's nothing inherently wrong with absurdity in comedy. The genre is rife with it, especially when it comes to family-centric sitcoms. And if it's a cartoon like "The Simpsons" or "Family Guy," then absurdity can easily be built into the show format itself. Nonetheless, Burr errs on the

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COMMUTER'S CHOICE

side of avoiding it with "F Is for Family."

"Once stuff gets too absurd, at least when I watch things, then I don't care about the characters," he explains. "It's just a comedy preference. The comedy I find really funny is whenever it goes down the way it really goes down. I mean, there's plenty absurdity in the show, but it's just more of the tertiary characters. It's not the main characters."

So whenever the comic beats involve the stalker-y aspirations of the

Bill Burr
GETTY IMAGES

car-peeping neighbor, Mr. Goomer (Trevor Devall), then the more absurdity the better. But if Frank, his wife Sue (Laura Dern), and his kids Kevin (Justin Long), Bill (Haley Reinhart) and Maureen (Debi Derryberry) are involved, then not so much.

"I think you connect with people more, the more real it is," says Burr. "If you make them laugh their asses off and it's real, then people will connect with it more. But if you make them laugh their asses off and it's over the top and absurd, they just go 'that was fun' and move on. It's when you get them to relate to stuff that I think you can better connect to the audience. That comes from the comics that I watched when I was growing up."

Yet that doesn't mean things will get silly, like in season two with the foiled terrorist plot at Frank's airport. Between the exploding people and the weirdness of season two's conclusion, viewers can rest assured that season three will keep pace.

"Whether it's the darker humor or some of the profane language we use, [Netflix is] very supportive," says Billingsly. "They're not constantly putting the shackles on us and saying, 'Jeez guys, you're going awfully far here.'"

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– New York Times

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1 It's Always Onesie in Philadelphia Bar Crawl
Dec. 1

Guests are invited to wear their favorite onesie while bar-hopping with drink specials and plenty of music during this event.
6 p.m.-midnight, JJ Bootleggers, 35 S. 2nd St., $17-$33

3 Bob Dylan opens The Met
Dec. 3

Bob Dylan and His Band will be the first act to play during this highly anticipated opening-night celebration at the newly renovated historic venue.
Dec. 3, 8 p.m., The Met Philadelphia, 858 N. Broad St., tickets vary

7 Opening night of 'The Nutcracker'
Dec. 7

The classic Philadelphia holiday tradition starts off the holiday season with a magical opening-night performance of "The Nutcracker."
Dec. 7, 7 p.m., Academy of Music, 240 S. Broad St., tickets vary

8 Army vs. Navy game
Dec. 8

Lincoln Financial Field hosts the traditional and historic Army vs. Navy rivalry game.
Dec. 8, 3 p.m., Lincoln Financial Field, 1 Lincoln Financial Field Way, tickets vary

9 Harry Potter Yule Brunch + Quizzo
Dec. 9

Transport to the magical world of Harry Potter with a family-friendly brunch straight from Honeydukes and a fun magical quizzo.
1 p.m., The Victoria Freehouse, 10 S. Front St., $35

Fun and unique things to do in Philly this December

10 Del Frisco's Grille opening
Dec. 10

The popular steakhouse is opening its Center City location with enough space for 250 guests, and features a dedicated private-event space.
11:30 a.m., Del Frisco's Grille, 225 S. Broad St.

12 Ho Ho Happy Hour
Dec. 12

Christmas Village is hosting this event full of food and drink specials (plus board games!) from the newly opened Thirsty Dice Cafe.
4-6 p.m., Christmas Village, 1500 Arch St.

13 Culinary Cage Match
Dec. 13

Amis Culinary Director Brad Spence is going head-to-head with Kensington Quarters Executive Chef Matt Harper in a four-course culinary battle.
6 p.m., Bar Amis, 4503 S. Broad St., $60

14 The Crossing at Christmas
Dec. 14

The Grammy Award-winning, Philadelphia-based chamber choir conducted by Donald Nally presents an evening filled with angelic holiday sounds.
8-10 p.m., The Church of Holy Trinity, 1904 Walnut St., $29

15 98 Degrees at Christmas
Dec. 15

Feel the festive nostalgia while listening to beloved holiday tunes sung by the smooth-sounding boy band 98 Degrees.
9 p.m.-midnight, Borgata, 1 Borgata Way, Atlantic City, NJ, $69-$79

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The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.
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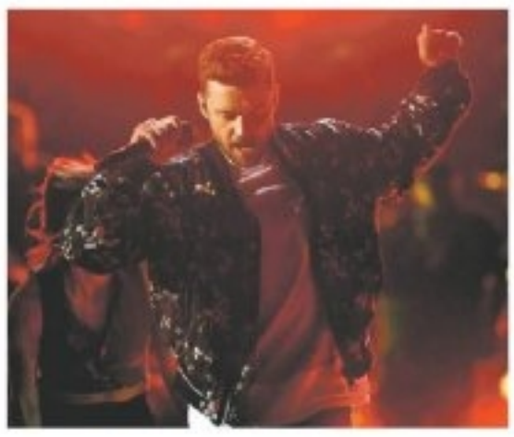
Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Compass Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

17

Justin Timberlake
Dec. 17

The music sensation behind hits like "Mirror" and "Sexyback" is coming to the City of Brotherly Love.
7:30-11 p.m., Wells Fargo Center, 3601 S. Broad St., $49- $250



18

Zahav & WHYY Dinner and a Movie
Dec. 18

The annual, cocktail-style dinner and a movie event is back. This time, Zahav and WHYY are putting their spin on Chinese takeout.
6:30-9 p.m., WHYY Inc., 150 N. 6th St., $79

19

Bar 57: Ugly Sweater Night'
Dec. 19

Sip on some delicious drinks and enjoy a magnificent view 57 floors up while sporting your best ugly sweater.
6-8 p.m., One Liberty Observation Deck, 1650 Market St., $12

21

Workshop DIY Cheeseboard
Dec. 21

Learn how to make your own delicious cheeseboard to impress your friends and become the ultimate host/ hostess. **7 p.m.- 9 p.m., Weaver's Way Mercantile, 542 Carpenter Ln., Philadelphia, $11**

22

Christmas at Hogwarts
Dec. 22

All witches, wizards and Muggles are invited to enjoy this magical holiday celebration. Costumes are encouraged.
10 p.m.-2 a.m., Infusion Lounge, 16 S. 2nd St., $12-$28

24

Disney on Ice
Dec. 24

Watch all of your favorite Disney characters including Mickey Mouse himself perform on ice at the opening day of the show.
12 p.m., Wells Fargo Center, 3601 S. Broad St., tickets vary

26

Italian Wine & Food Pairing
Dec. 26

The title says it all. Enjoy and indulge in a delightful spread of Italian food and wine and learn secrets on how to pair the two.
7:30-9:30 p.m., The Wine School of Philadelphia, 109 S. 22nd St., $89-$119

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Check out the hilarious performers from Philly Nutt Crak-Up PHILLY NUTT CRAK-UP

Fun things to do in Philly this weekend

Eat a latke feast, hunt for candy canes in a skyrise and much more. **MOLLY GIVEN**

Looking for some fun and unique things to do in Philly this weekend? We've got you covered.

Porta's Pop-Up Holiday Market

The festive Holiday Market will feature a collection of local artists, makers, and boutiques selling clothing, jewelry, bags, art and more. Some vendors will be selling specialty items for as low as $5, making this market perfect for those on a budget. Porta will also be serving up their delicious brunch with cant-beat specials; while Stateside Vodka will be providing drinks such as Stateside Bloody Marys and Stateside Salty Dogs.
Dec. 2, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., 1216 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, free, pizzaporta.com

Philly Nutt Crak-Up

Throw out all expectations, this farcical performance featuring choreography from critically acclaimed Artistic Director Gail Vartanian is a hilarious spin on a beloved holiday classic. Join the rappin' Sugar-Plum Fairy, battling hip hoppin' Railway Rats, City Hall Dolls, Captain Philadelphia and Liberty Belle-Anne as they put on one of the most entertaining shows in the city.
Nov. 30- Dec.2, times vary, Suzanne Roberts Theater, 480 South Broad St., $40-$45,717tix.com

Pasta Class with Chef Brad Spence

Have you ever wanted to learn how to make a delicious pasta dish from scratch? Here is your chance. Chef Brad Spence will be leading this interactive class where guests will learn the best tips and techniques to make scrumptious pasta and sauces. Along with the class, there will be unlimited house wine and refreshments and 4-course pasta tasting. Reservations are required.
Dec. 1, 12 p.m., Amis Trattoria, 412 S. 13 St., $125, handsonpastaclassdec.splashthat.com

Jessica Lang at the Annenberg Center

Bucks County native and dancing superstar Jessica Lang is performing in Philly for the last time with her Jessica Lang Dance Company. This is a show you do not want to miss, the performance encompasses ballet-based and contemporary-driven works that are rich with stunning movement, compelling musicality and beautiful cinematic composition.
Nov. 30- Dec.1, times vary, Annenberg Center, 3680 Walnut St., $29-$58, annenberg-center.org

Mandy Gonzalez at the MOAR

Mandy Gonzalez, known for her role of Angelica Schuyler in the Broadway production of Hamilton is stopping by the Museum of American Revolution's interactive Alexander Hamilton exhibit to perform with Elementary students from the Isaac Sheppard School in Kensington and members of the Philly POPS. Santa Claus himself will also be attending and will even sing a few tunes as well. After the show, guests can explore the Hamilton exhibit featuring plenty of fun hands-on activities.
Dec. 2, 11 a.m., Museum of the American Revolution 101 S. 3rd St., free with museum admission, amrevmuseum.org

A Crazy Night of Latkes

Join Abe Fisher in celebrating a very special Channukah feast (it's going to be lit) full of delicious latkes. Tasty dishes include a Latke Duo, Latke Crusted-Tilefish, Braised Veal Cheek and a Sufganiyot.This is a meal you certainly do not want to miss out on, there is a beverage pairing option for an extra $35 as well.
Dec.2, reservations available, Abe Fisher, 1623 Sansom St., $70-$105, abefisherphilly.com

Candy Cane Hunt

Hunt for sweet holiday treats with a very special guest: The Sugar Plum Fairy (from the Pennsylvania Ballet's performance of The Nutcracker.)The hunt takes place at the One Liberty Observation Deck on the 57th floor and gives visitors an absolutely incredible view of the city from above. This event is perfect for families.
Dec. 2, 10 a.m.- 12 p.m., One Liberty Observation Deck, 1650 Market St., $5-$10, phillyfromthetop.com

11th Hour's Children of Eden

A part of 11th Hour's Next Step Concert Series, this family-friendly musical opens this weekend and will run for two weeks until Dec. 9. The show encompasses amazing story-telling and superb music and brings concert versions of musicals to the stage featuring a live band, theatrical lighting and sound design. The highly entertaining show also features an art exhibit and an LGBTQ Happy Hour.
Dec. 1- 9, times vary, 11th Hour Theater Co., 2329 S 3rd St., ticketsvary,11thhourtheatrecompany.org

Philly Book & Author Fest

The best in the Philly Indie book scene including Head House Books, Penn Book Center and Big Blue Marble Bookstore will be present at the festival to sell their thought-provoking and entertaining books to the public. The festival will also feature book signings and meet and greets from top Philly authors, items from local record shops and other craft vendors as well.
Dec.1-2, 11 a.m.- 8 p.m., Cherry Street Pier, 121 N Christopher Columbus Blvd., free, cherrystreetpier.com

A Very Philly Christmas

The five Historic Houses of Fairmount will open their doors to the public for this festive celebration. There will be four full days that Philadelphians can tour the beautifully decorated homes, check out the new Ice Bar, hear fabulous live music, take pictures with Santa, see a Gritty sculpture made out of cheese and sample delicious treats from local spots. Check out the website for full details and times for all of the wonderful events.
Select days starting Nov. 30, times vary, Historic House of Fairmount, various addresses, prices vary, holidaysinthepark.com

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Pat King
Grumble Editor

ISN'T THERE A BETTER TIME TO TAKE A PHONE CALL?

OK, what is up with people who take phone calls while they are in a public restroom? I would usually reserve such a word as "disrespectful" for something more dire and brazen, but people with that small amount of self-awareness really can't be described in any other way. It really makes me wonder how many times I have been the person on the other end of the line from someone who is talking loudly through a Bluetooth while saddled up next to a urinal.

What's even worse is when you see someone in the middle of a phone call continue their conversation after walking into the bathroom, carrying on like nothing is out of the ordinary. Recently, I was in the men's room and saw someone walk in while on the phone and say, "Yeah, don't worry, I just walked into the bathroom." Then that person did his business while still on the phone with no care in the world. Can't this call wait? It seems like your body is trying to send you that very message. There's a time and place. Unfortunately, you can't always be closing all the time. Like in the bathroom, for instance. Just get in and get out and save the phone call for later.

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STEPHEN HILLENBURG, R.I.P.

Earlier this week, the world lost the creator of "SpongeBob SquarePants," Stephen Hillenburg, after his battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. His off-kilter sense of humor and approach to empathy in both "SpongeBob" and his legendary Nickelodeon show "Rocko's Modern Life" inspired a whole generation of kids to embrace their weirdness for the better. His influence was felt the world over, and even led to none other than Beck to take to Twitter to deliver a moving eulogy of Hillenburg.

"Very sad to hear the news of the passing of Stephen Hillenburg, who years and years ago used to be my neighbor and kindly did the artwork for the first music that I ever released," Beck wrote. The photo from the record was shot behind his apartment. "Better known as the creator of 'SpongeBob SquarePants,' I always remembered him as a genuinely sweet guy. I was lucky to get to run into him by chance at the airport a few months ago. Sending my condolences to his family and to all the friends who are missing him today and thinking about old times."

As we mourn Hillenburg, it's amazing to see the work that he left behind and how he shaped our culture for the better. R.I.P., Stephen Hillenburg. You will be missed.

Please remember to send your Humbles to **humble@metro.us**. These submissions can be acts of gratitude, positivity or kindness that you have seen throughout the day.

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Tidy up loose ends. Don't leave any paperwork unfinished. Taking care of someone else's affairs will lead to an unexpected reward. Don't reveal private or personal information.

Taurus You'll learn a lot through observation. Dealing with people who are different from you will be eye-opening. Don't fear or feel threatened by change. Be positive and keep moving.

Gemini Look at what you can achieve and be honest about what you cannot do. Playing it straight will deter others from expecting or asking for too much.

Cancer Make travel plans or arrangements for end-of-year festivities. Double up on your workload in order to free up more time to enjoy with friends and family.

Leo Social events will change the way you think and could push you toward a healthier lifestyle. Stick to a set limit to help avoid excessive behavior.

Virgo Get involved in activities that will put you in the spirit of the season. You'll find the perfect way to please a loved one. A personal change will turn out well.

Libra Consistency will make a difference. Stop waffling and make a concrete plan. A conversation will reveal information that could influence the way you feel about someone.

Scorpio Do something creative. Decorate your place for upcoming events or make something that you can put on display or give to a loved one. Use your time wisely.

Sagittarius Problems with someone in a position of authority will not bode well for you. Avoid doing anything that may draw attention. Moderation will be in your best interest.

Capricorn Look for good ways to reduce your taxes. Moving money around and updating personal documents before they lapse should be a priority. Don't offer a handout to someone pestering you.

Aquarius Look at the big picture and make an adjustment to the way you earn your living. Take steps to protect your reputation. An emotional matter should be handled with tact.

Pisces Emotional matters will surface, causing a problem with a partner, sibling or close friend. Watch what you say. Once the words are out of your mouth, there will be no reversing the damage done. EUGENIA LAST

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No charges against Atlantic City mayor, councilman for fight

Atlantic City Mayor Frank Gilliam (left) and Atlantic City Councilman Jeffree Fauntleroy II (right) are under the microscope. PROVIDED

Mayor Frank Gilliam and Councilman Jeffree Fauntleroy II were not charged for punch-up, but still face pressure to step down.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Weeks after Frank Gilliam, mayor of rising Jersey Shore destination Atlantic City, was first seen sporting a black eye from a punch-up with a fellow city politician outside the Golden Nugget Casino, prosecutors have announced that he will not be charged.

"The Cape May County Prosecutor's Office will not be pursuing any criminal charges regarding the altercation that took place outside of the Golden Nugget Casino between Atlantic City Mayor Frank Gilliam, Atlantic City Councilman Jeffree Fauntleroy II and certain employees of the Haven Nightclub," prosecutors announced.

Members of the city's Democratic Committee called the incident early on Veterans Day "a black eye for the city."

Surveillance video released by the New Jersey Attorney General's Office shows a meandering brawl through the parking lot of Golden Nugget casino on Nov. 11 around 2:30 a.m., involving Gilliam, Fauntleroy and several other men and women, some of whom were identified as Haven Nightclub employees.

"He is making the citizens liable for his actions," groused John Devlin, member of the Atlantic City Democratic Committee, to CBS 3. "What is he doing at 2:30 in the morning driving a city vehicle at the Golden Nugget nightclub in Atlantic City?"

"The Cape May County Prosecutor's Office will not be pursuing any criminal charges regarding the altercation that took place."

Prosecutors' announcement

The committee has called for both Gilliam and Fauntleroy to be formerly suspended.

A Dec. 11 court date has been scheduled in North Wildwood for complaints against the two men.

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SPORTS

Vikes, Bears among NFL Week 13 MetroBet best bets

Where to place your money this weekend.

ROBERT CRISCOLA
letters@metro.us

Vikings receiver Stefon Diggs will be a handful for the New England secondary. GETTY IMAGES

Chicago Bears (-4.5) at New York Giants

Moneyline: Bears -170, Giants +140

Betting Total: 45 points

Not only did the Bears go into Detroit and beat the Lions on a short turnaround last week, they also won without Mitchell Trubisky. Chase Daniel compiled 226 of the 264 total yards Chicago gained in that tilt as Jordan Howard and Tarik Cohen were held in check. That was their fifth straight win and cover, and they should make it six on Sunday against the "dressed-up" Giants.

New York has enjoyed an easy schedule of late, beating the 49ers and Bucs (by a grand total of seven points) before losing a close one to the Eagles. This is a big step up in class for Eli Manning and company now. The Bears' defense, third in points per game allowed and second in yards per play allowed, should give the Giants' offense fits.

It's unclear as of Tuesday whether or not Trubisky will suit up, but last week's line movement suggests he's worth only about a point to the spread.

Prediction: Bears win, 30-17

The play: Bears -4.5

New York Jets at Tennessee Titans (-9.5)

Moneyline: Jets +370, Titans -465

Betting Total: 40.5 points

It's hard to believe the Jets were 3-3 at one point as they've lost five straight games, failing to cover the spread each time. Things don't get any easier for them as they travel to Tennessee to take on the Titans this Sunday.

The Jets' offense, expected to be led by Josh McCown once more, has become stagnant, mustering just 11.2 points per game over their last five contests. They'll face a Tennessee defense that is sixth in points per game allowed in 2018.

Marcus Mariota and company have struggled to produce points most of the year, but New York's defense has surrendered over 28 points per game during their five-game losing streak. The Titans' offensive line is the worst in the league by sacks allowed this year, but the Jets' pass rush is just 26th in sacks (22).

Venue will play a big role in determining the outcome based on recent trends. The Jets have failed to cover in five of their last six on the road, while the Titans are 6-1 against the spread in their last seven home games.

Prediction: Titans win, 24-10

The play: Titans -9.5

Minnesota Vikings at New England Patriots (-6)

Moneyline: Vikings +210, Patriots -260

Betting Total: 48.5 points

Kirk Cousins' mantle is far less crowded than Tom Brady's, but he should outshine the perennial MVP candidate this Sunday.

Minnesota's offense relies heavily on Cousins and his fifth-ranked passing offense. Fortunately for them, New England's secondary has obliged opposing quarterbacks all season long, as they're just 25th against the aerial attack. Perimeter weapons Stefon Diggs and Adam Thielen present a matchup nightmare for the Patriots.

The Vikings' defense has rebounded after a rough start to 2018, allowing fewer than 300 yards in five of their last six games. Amazingly, they've limited enemy quarterbacks to fewer than 200 yards in five straight contests. That spells trouble for New England, who will need to lean on Brady to have a shot at a victory if Sony Michel can't suit up or is at less than 100 percent.

Prediction: Vikings win, 34-31

The play: Vikings +6 and Vikings vs. Patriots Over 48.5 points

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GETTY IMAGES

Temple Owls off to soaring start in Dunphy's final season

The Owls are off to their best start since 2012-13, which was also the last time they won a game in the NCAA tourney.

JEFF MCMENAMIN
sports@metro.us

The Temple Owls are off to an impressive 6-1 start to the 2018-19 college basketball campaign in coach Fran Dunphy's final season at the helm.

With NCAA tournament resume-building wins against Georgia, Cal and Missouri already, the Owls are in a good spot and already receiving votes for the AP top 25 and coaches' polls.

"It was big for us to get a Power Five win on our schedule for NCAA Tournament time," Temple guard Shizz Alston Jr. said of Tuesday's win over Missouri. "The committee can see that we went on the road and beat a pretty good team."

It's the Owls best start since 2012-13 (6-0), which is coincidentally the last time they defeated their Big Five rival Villanova and the last time the Owls won a game in the NCAA Tournament.

The next week is going to prove what this Owls team is made of. They face their biggest rival St. Joe's (4-3) at the Palestra on Saturday in the second game of a doubleheader, before a matchup with the defending national champions and 23rd-ranked Villanova (5-2) at the newly renovated Pavilion on Wednesday.

If Temple can capture those two wins, it would surely stir up the conversation in the Delaware Valley as to which local team has the best chance at a postseason run this year out of the Big Five.

Led by three lethal guards in Alston Jr., Quinton Rose, and Nate Pierre-Louis, the Owls are going to have the best backcourt in the majority, if not all, of their games this season.

Alston Jr. is averaging 17.4 points, 5.7 assists and 1.6 steals to start the year, while Rose matches him in scoring at 17.4 points to go along with 2.4 steals. Pierre-Louis, the more physical of the guards, is averaging 11.9 points, 6.3 rebounds, and 2.4 steals.

Along those same lines, Rose and Pierre-Louis are shooting over 40 percent from the field, while Alston Jr. leads the trio in three-point shooting at 38.6 percent.

This week is also a farewell week of sorts to coach Dunphy. From playing at La Salle for four years to coaching at Penn and Temple a combined 30 years, St. Joe's coach Phil Martelli is sad that this will be the 24th and final time he gets to coach against his longtime friend.

"This isn't going to be easy," Martelli said. "[Dunphy] is not just an outstanding coach. That's a great man."

Before this season began, it was announced that assistant coach and former Sixers great Aaron McKie would take over the head coaching duties following the season.

But for now, the focus is on continuing the hot start and adding more of a case for the selection committee. The Owls know more than any team in recent years how easy it is to get snubbed.

Saturday's game against St. Joe's will air at 5:30 p.m. on NBC Sports Network, while next Wednesday's game against Villanova will air at 8:30 p.m. on Fox Sports 1.

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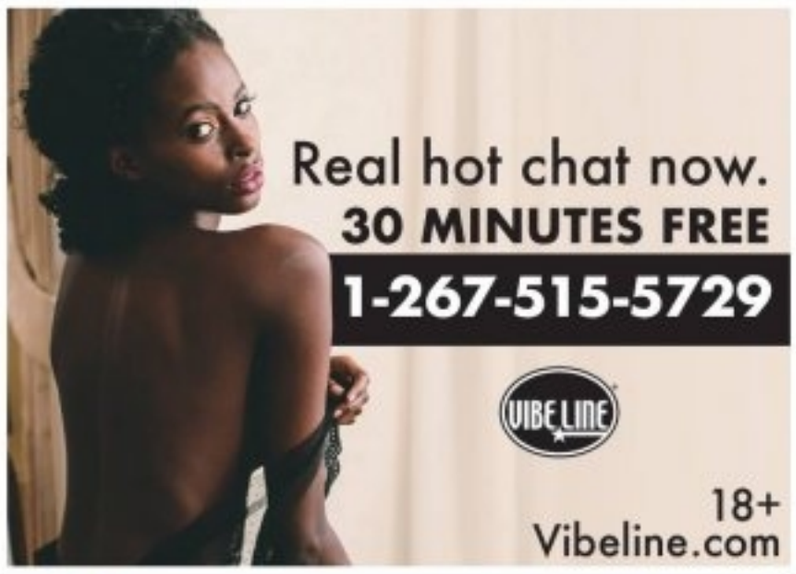

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www.metro.us

GAMES

metro.us/crossword

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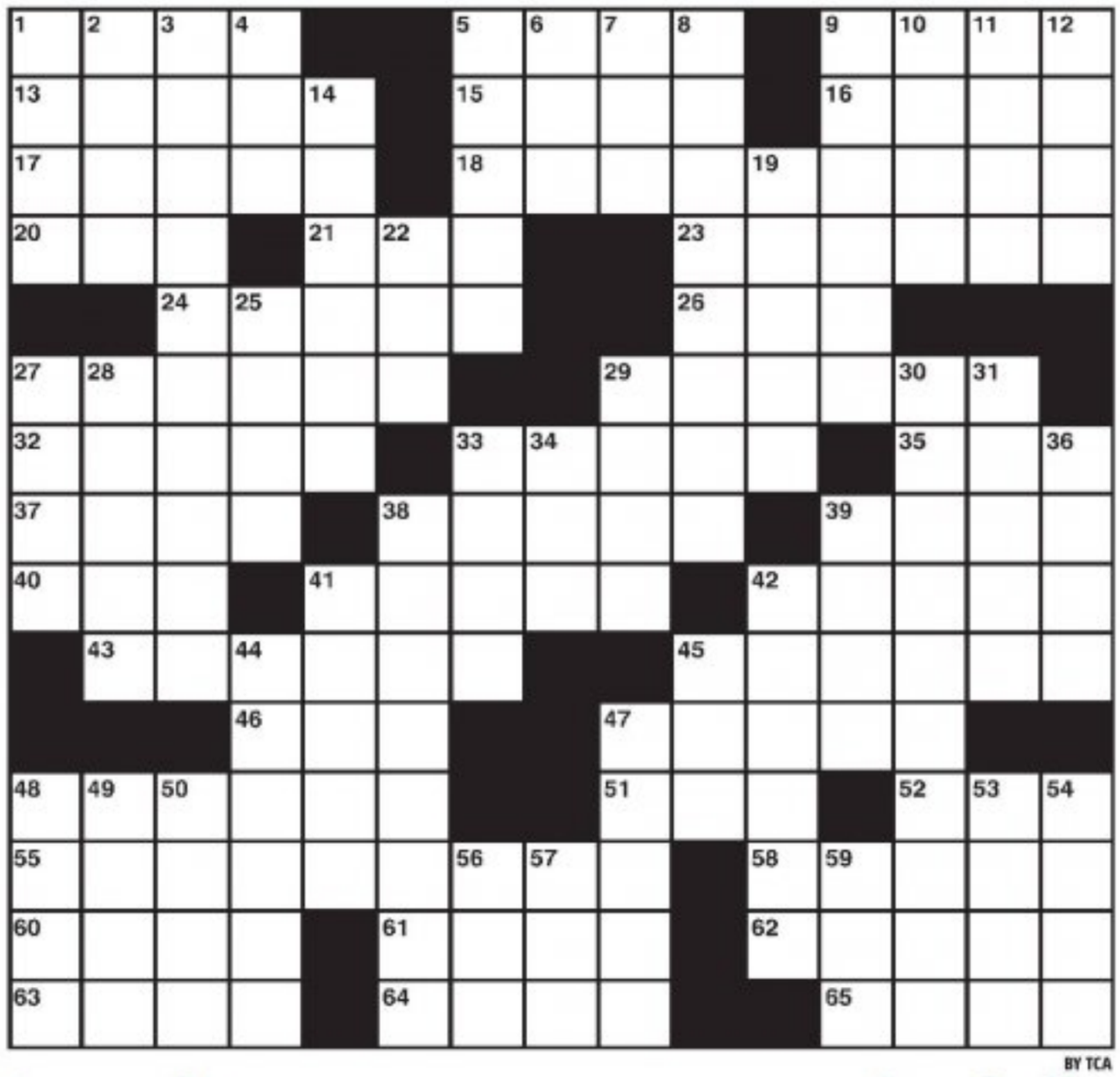
ACROSS

1 Chocolate __ cookies
5 Many an East European
9 __ the fool; behaves stupidly
13 Solitary
15 Sharpen
16 Cowboy's shoe
17 Subside
18 __ of; next to
20 Physician, familiarly
21 Coolidge, to friends
23 Prior to today
24 Discontinue
26 Galloped
27 Business declines
29 Ploy
32 Accepted standards
33 Line of travel
35 Short sleep
37 "__ in a Manger"
38 Sudden forward rush
39 Office note
40 Acquire
41 Old Roman robes
42 Make merry
43 Passes on, as a message
45 In one's dotage
46 "I __ poor wayfaring stranger..."
47 Counter an argument
48 Digger's tool
51 Thirsty Frenchman's need
52 IM pioneer
55 "The Pelican State"
58 Fictional tale
60 Linkletter & others
61 Small store
62 Uses an emery board
63 TV series for Mike Farrell
64 Bugle song
65 Late July babies

DOWN

1 __ in; wearing
2 Bum
3 Wrong
4 Animal in the house
5 Layered rock
6 Chat room laugh
7 Year south of the border
8 Worship
9 Not present
10 Quarter or dime
11 Commotion
12 One-dish meal
14 Summarizes
19 Kelly or Slick
22 Donkey
25 Acting award
27 Unexpected obstacle
28 Certain berth
29 Yanks
30 Sure to happen
31 Bedouin's transport
33 Floor coverings
34 "__ Clear Day, You Can See Forever"
36 Flagstaff
38 U.S. colonist supportive of Britain
39 Restaurant's list
41 Subdues
42 Reject sharply
44 Lush; profuse
45 Body of water
47 Gathers crops
48 Close angrily
49 Circle dance
50 On the __ with; not speaking to
53 Bread spread
54 Not as much
56 __ moment; instant of realization
57 File drawer, perhaps
59 Feel miserable



BY TCA

metro.us/wordsearch

O	F	S	A	W	Y	E	R	E	E
G	W	E	M	H	M	E	I	R	H
I	I	O	E	K	R	L	L	U	U
L	T	S	R	R	F	E	C	T	M
D	A	E	I	A	U	K	L	N	O
E	U	Y	C	M	F	Q	E	E	R
D	T	W	A	I	N	U	M	V	I
A	H	S	N	S	Q	Z	E	D	S
G	O	N	D	U	S	E	N	A	T
E	R	I	T	A	S	E	S	X	P

Adventure
American
Author
Clemens
Essay
Gilded Age
Huck Finn
Humorist
Mark
Samuel
Satire
Sawyer
Tom
Twain
Wit

metro.us/wander

Category: Music Mixups

G	A	I	N	
A	R	H	U	L
E	I	C	E	B
R	S	T	M	A
E	H	E	M	S
	S	I	I	T

Trace a path, using every letter once, to find the hidden phrase. Your path can turn in any direction, but not diagonally.

metro.us/sudoku

	5			3		4		1
2	8			1				5
4	3	1	9					
8			7		4	1	6	
7								3
	1	4	8		3			7
					9	2	5	4
5				4			1	8
1		2		8			3	

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Yesterday's Answers

	E	S	S		F	A	L	S	E		A	P	E	D
J	A	C	K		A	B	O	I	L		M	A	Y	A
A	C	H	Y		S	H	O	P	K	E	E	P	E	R
R	H	O		S	T	O	P	S		B	L	A	D	E
		O	T	H	E	R			F	B	I			
S	A	L	O	O	N			P	R	E	A	C	H	
A	D	M	I	T		B	R	E	A	D		H	O	W
G	O	A	L		R	E	P	A	Y		D	A	N	A
A	P	T		S	E	A	M	S		D	O	N	O	R
	T	E	E	T	E	R			H	U	N	G	R	Y
			R	O	D			D	E	N	S	E		
T	H	R	O	W		G	L	I	D	E		L	A	S
H	E	A	D	S	T	R	O	N	G		B	E	L	L
U	R	G	E		W	A	S	T	E		E	S	P	Y
G	O	E	S		O	B	E	Y	S		A	S	S	

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- Bipolar
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- Depression
- Diabetes
- Eczema (Atopic Dermatitis)
- Influenza ("The Flu")
- Healthy Volunteers
- Kidney Disease
- Lactose Intolerance
- Liver Disease
- Migraine
- Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH)
- Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD)
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